



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/676,447	10/02/2003	Bruce Williams	061270-0878	7057

22428 7590 03/02/2006
FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP
SUITE 500
3000 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20007

EXAMINER

GARRETT, ERIKA P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3636

DATE MAILED: 03/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/676,447	Applicant(s) WILLIAMS ET AL.	
	Examiner Erika Garrett	Art Unit 3636	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 43-46 and 59-64 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 43-46 and 59-64 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/20/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The last office action has been vacated. A new office action on the merits appears

below. *The amendment filed 10/19/05 has been entered.*

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 43-45, 59-64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kain (4,568,122) in view of Corwin (5,620,233). Kain discloses the use of a child seat (11) comprising a base (13) having a seating surface; an armrest (47) connected to the base on a side of the seating surface; wherein the armrest is adjustable along a straight line between a first height position relative to the seating surface and second height position relative to the seating surface (figs.4-6); and wherein the armrest includes a connecting portion (41) that slidably fits into a corresponding receiving portion (31) of the base; wherein the child seat is configured for placement on a seat of the vehicle; and wherein the child seat has a belt path configured to receive and locate relative to the child a lap belt (75) of restraint system of the vehicle. Kain shows the use of all the claimed invention but fails to show the use of a receiving portion includes a slot for receiving a tab, the tab is flexible, and armrest includes holes, for receiving the protrusions. Corwin teaches the use of a receiving portion (36) includes a slot for receiving a tab (44), the tab is flexible, and armrest includes holes (48) for receiving the

Art Unit: 3636

protrusions. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the child seat with a receiving portion includes a slot for receiving a tab, the tab is flexible, and armrest includes holes, for receiving the protrusions as taught by Corwin in order to move the armrest from the first position to the second position.

Claim 46 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kain as applied to claim 43 above, and further in view of Carnahan (6,474,735). Kain shows the use of all the claimed invention but fails to show the use of a push button. Carnahan teaches the use of a push button (46). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the child seat with a push button as taught by Carnahan, in order to adjust the armrest from one position to the next position.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 43-46 and 59-64 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erika Garrett whose telephone number is 571-272-6859. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

Art Unit: 3636

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pete Cuomo can be reached on 571-272-6856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EG 
February 15, 2006


Peter M. Cuomo
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600